

Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy Facts

- The Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy in Battle Creek is considered one of the most successful of the 34 national ChalleNGe programs.
- The academy has graduated over 2,400 cadets since its inception in 1999.
- Approximately 70 percent of cadets earn their GED, while others return to high school to earn a diploma.
- Approximately 28 percent of graduates enlist in the military.
- About 98 percent of graduates report no future involvement with the law.
- Academy cadets have completed over 100,000 hours of service to the community.
- Projected 2014 budget: 75 percent federal, 25 percent state.
- Projected 2014 budget is \$4.98 million: \$3.48 million federal; \$1.5 million state.
- For every \$1 Michigan taxpayers invest in each successful student, they receive a return of \$308.
- The Academy is a jobs provider, employing more than 50 Michigan citizens.

MICHIGAN
YOUTH
CHALLENGE
ACADEMY



Watch a special video presentation on the
Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy:

www.savemyca.com

The Cost of Dropping Out of High School

- Michigan's statewide dropout rate is approximately 18 percent – over 23,000 students from the class of 2005 alone.
- Fifty percent of Michigan residents who received cash welfare in 2009 were dropouts, costing the state over \$200 million.
- About 75 percent of convicts who entered prison in 2009 were dropouts – housing them for one year cost taxpayers \$200 million.
- Eighty-eight percent of all high school dropouts who do not receive at least their GED will be incarcerated by the time they are 25, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Sources: Michigan Youth ChalleNGe Academy, ACLU of Michigan, Alliance for Excellent Education, Michigan Center for Educational Performance and Information, and U.S. Department of Justice.



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